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Number 26



HISPANIC NEWS

The Inland Empire's only Hispanic-owned English language newspaper

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DR. HERB FISCHER RETIRED ON AUGUST 29, 2008



CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. HERBERT FISCHER ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER SERVING THIRTY-NINE YEARS OF COMMITMENT AND SERVICE IN THE EDUCATION OF PRE-SCHOOL TO 12TH GRADE STUDENTS IN THE SAN BERNARDINO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, COLTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO.

WE WISH HIM A WELL-DESERVED RETIREMENT AND MANY YEARS OF ENJOYMENT WITH HIS WIFE, DR. CHERYL FISCHER, HIS CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN.

DR. FISCHER ESTABLISHED AN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR MANY TO FOLLOW AND HIS LEGACY WILL GENERATE A MYRIAD OF FUTURE EDUCATED AND PRODUCTIVE WORKFORCE.

Inland Empire Hispanic News-Graciano Gomez, Publisher

REP. BACA GIVES KEYNOTE ADDRESS FOR CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS AT DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Joe Baca (D-Rialto) addressed the Democratic National Convention in Denver, Colorado, in his role as Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) in this 110th Congress. In his speech, Congressman Baca voiced strong support for Senator Barack Obama, stating he is the candidate best suited to fight for the needs of Hispanic Americans, and working class families across the nation.

"Growing up the youngest of 15 children in a poor New Mexico household, I never imagined I would one day be participating at such a historic event," said Rep. Baca. "As Chair of the Hispanic Caucus, it is a great honor to represent the Latino community as we nominate Barack Obama as the first ever African American major party candidate to run for the position of President of the United States!"

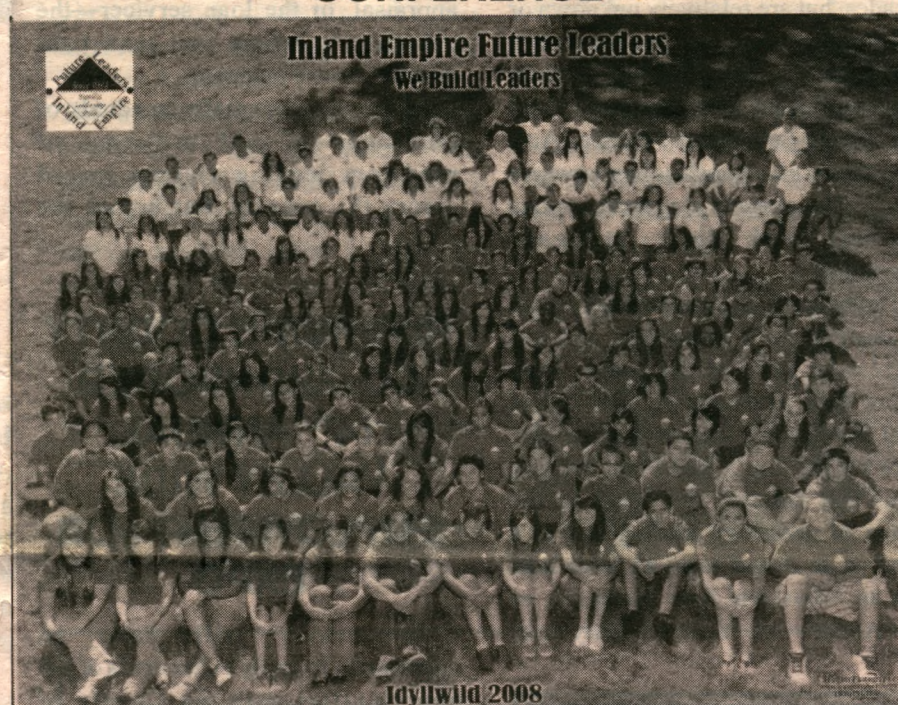
Rep. Baca spoke, accompanied with his colleagues from the CHC, Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-CA), Rep. Silvestre Reyes (D-TX), and Rep. Jose Serrano (D-NY), reminding the

conference of the negative impact President Bush's policies have had on our economy, the wellbeing of working families, and our national security.

"We cannot afford four more years of the failed Bush-Cheney policies," concluded Rep. Baca. "We need a president who knows that equal opportunity and access to an affordable college education are rights every American deserves. We need a president who knows that it is morally wrong to have 12 million uninsured children and 45 million uninsured adults living in the United States of America."

"As president, Barack Obama will work to resolve America's education and health care systems, get the economy moving in the right direction again, and create more jobs at home. He will also bring a responsible end to the war in Iraq, and continue to make sure all our returning soldiers are given the care and benefits they so richly deserve. Barack Obama will be a fighter for every American and the right person for the job of next President of the United States!"

FUTURE LEADERS 24TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE



SAN BERNARDINO, CA — A historic 141 Hispanic eighth- and ninth-grade students, totaling from 59 schools representing San Bernardino, Riverside and Los Angeles counties participated in the 24th Annual Inland Empire Future Leaders Program (IEFLP). This year's program was held at the Desert Sun Science Center in Idyllwild, August 3-8, 2008.

The program's goals are to encourage the students to stay in school, strive for academic excellence, become involved in school, church and community, and eventually earn a college degree. In addition, participating youngsters learned leadership and communication skills which were emphasized in combination with cultural pride workshops, says Tom M. Rivera, associate dean of Undergraduate Studies at Cal State San Bernardino and chair of the IEFLP board of directors.

Nearly 3,000 students have participated in the program, which began in 1985. The program's popularity and effectiveness among students, parents, educators, and community supporters can be shown from surveys taken every year since 1990 which indicate that 99 percent of student participants graduate from

high school and 90 percent attend college, Rivera said.

Volunteers from area school districts and community service organizations, such as the Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernardino, whose members used their professional expertise to encourage the students to participate in community service projects, joined with 50 former Future Leaders to implement this year's program.

Funding for the program was provided through individuals, community groups, businesses, foundations, and government agencies.

For more information contact Tom M. Rivera at (909) 537-5044 or e-mail him at trivera@csusb.edu.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH Salute to the Hispanic Community Special Edition

The Inland Empire Hispanic News invites the community, elected officials and candidates for office to join in the national celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month with special greetings in the September 17 publications. Call Stella at (909) 381-6259 to inquire on special rates.

DROWNING IN MORTGAGE DEBT? FEDERAL LAW MAY BE ON YOUR SIDE

By Benjamin Dover

While news reports continue to forecast rising foreclosure rates, there may be a solution for homeowners who think they're trapped in a mortgage with no way out. Distressed homeowners already have plenty of legal firepower on their side...they just don't know it.

"There have been hundreds of thousands—if not millions—of violations of predatory lending laws over the last nine years," says investigative journalist Benjamin Dover, the creator of a new consumer-friendly website, www.VoidMyMortgage.com.

"There are four incredibly powerful federal laws that have been around for decades, but are relatively unknown or misunderstood to the average consumer: The Fair Housing, Truth In Lending, Equal Credit Opportunity and Real Estate Settlement Practices Acts collectively give hopeless homeowners plenty of leverage to play some serious hardball with their mortgage companies."

Dover urges distressed homeowners to analyze their situations and get aggressive early in the game, long before their payments escalate out of sight and become impossible to make. Here are his Top 5 Red Flag Warning Signs that indicate you could be the victim of predatory lending and as a result in an illegal loan: #1 Your loan was an Adjustable Rate Mortgage, or an "ARM". #2 Your monthly loan

payment has increased more than \$200 in the past year – or – if your monthly payment will increase by more than \$200 in the next six months. #3 If your loan has a pre-payment penalty longer than three years. #4 If your home was originally appraised for a higher value than homes were selling for in your neighborhood. #5 Or, if your Realtor or title company steered you to a specific mortgage company.

If you answered 'yes' to two or more of these questions, Dover says you may have a case against your loan originator, the title company who closed the loan, the appraiser who provided your lender with the original appraisal, or the loan servicer—the company to whom you send your monthly house payment.

There are potentially hundreds of thousands—if not millions—of predatory lending victims spread across the country, but before the

launch of Dover's whistle-blowing website, there were no advocates informing distressed homeowners that they might have a case. As Dover points out, there is zero incentive for banks and mortgage companies to put homeowners on alert, for obvious financial reasons.

As for those consumers who may have already been contacted by their mortgage company about re-writing their loans, Dover cautions: "Before you jump on offers to reduce your principal balance and re-write your loan, consider who initially put you in the financial mess you're in. You're not really going to trust them to give you the best possible deal and rewrite your loan, are you?"

Dover's company, VoidMyMortgage.com has retained Dr. Gary Lacefield, one of the nation's leading experts to handle mortgage audits for distressed homeowners. A former enforcer for the Department of

Housing & Urban Development (HUD), Lacefield personally negotiated and drafted the six largest lending settlement agreements in HUD Civil Rights history, totaling over \$10 billion.

Dover and Lacefield's plan to save the American dream is simple. "Our goal is to re-write or 'recast' these illegal loans. 'We want to help keep people in their homes,'" says Dover.

Benjamin Dover has written two best-selling books. Life After Debt: The Blueprint for Surviving In America's Credit Society and Back Off! The Definitive Guide To Stopping Collection Agency Harassment. His popular column, Ask Ben, appeared weekly in The Dallas Morning News from 1998 – 2004 and his expert commentary, advice, tips and strategies have been featured in some of the nation's leading newspapers and magazines for almost two decades.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY CO-SPONSORED 14TH ANNUAL VALLEY WIDE EMPLOYMENT JOB EXPO

Job-seekers will have an opportunity to apply to hundreds of job opportunities with the County of Riverside at an annual job fair on Sept. 11.

As one of the largest employers in the region, Riverside County is a sponsor of the 14th annual Valley Wide Employment EXPO at the Palm Springs Convention Center (277 N. Avenida Caballeros) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Interested applicants will have an opportunity to do on-site fingerprinting to begin the background screening process for any on-the-spot job offers. A computer room will provide online access to do job searches.

The County has available job opportunities from entry-level to management positions. Participating county departments at the job fair will include Human Resources, Animal Services, Public Health, Riverside County Regional Medical Center and the Sheriff's Department, among others. For a complete list of employers, as well as other information about the job fair, visit www.desertjobexpo.com.

The County of Riverside extends over 7,000 square miles and employs over 20,000 people. The County has hundreds of upcoming career opportunities from Palm Springs and the Desert Resort Communities and Temecula to Riverside. Those interested in County employment or EXPO information can visit www.rc-hr.com or call (951) 955-3500

STATE ANNOUNCES \$227 MILLION IN GRANTS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Proposition 1D funds will help schools repair, build and modernize facilities for student success

Ensuring that schools are receiving the financial resources to provide students with modern amenities, the California State and Consumer Services Agency and the Office of the Secretary of Education announced today the allocation of \$272 million in construction grants by the State Allocation Board (SAB) to more than 300 California schools. The allocation includes \$259 million in Proposition 1D funds, the \$10.4 billion bond measure championed by the governor as part of his Strategic Growth Plan approved by voters in 2006.

An additional \$13 million was allocated to more than 250 campuses for emergency repairs.

"These funds will give many California schools the opportunity to make much-needed improvements and the ability to enhance the learning environments for our students," said Secretary of Education David Long.

As part of Governor Schwarzenegger's \$42 billion Strategic Growth Plan to rehabilitate California's infrastructure, the Proposition 1D grants for new construction and modernization of facilities will go to: three in Northern California and the north coast region; eight in the Central Valley; nine in the greater Sacramento area; 11 in the San Francisco Bay Area and central coast region; and 35 in Southern California.

Since 2007, more than \$2 billion in Proposition 1D funds have been allocated for school improvements.

Governor Schwarzenegger has facilitated and expedited the allocation of billions of dollars from the 2006

infrastructure bonds to launch key projects, create jobs and stimulate California's economy. Specifically, he has:

- Announced approximately \$136 million in Proposition 1B funds for 99 transit projects statewide.
- Announced the allocation of \$463 million in Proposition 1D funds for new construction and modernization projects for 29 charter schools statewide.
- Announced \$382 million in Proposition 1B funds for transportation projects across the state.
- Announced the approval of \$3.5 billion in Proposition 1B bond funds for transportation and goods movement projects across the state.
- Announced \$394 million in Proposition 1B bond funding for 106 transit projects statewide.
- Announced \$40 million for port security from Proposition 1B funds.
- Announced \$73 million for affordable housing projects in Proposition 1C and Proposition 46 funds to help more than 1,600 California families rent or purchase affordable housing.
- Announced \$211 million for expedited implementation in Proposition 1E funds to four critical levee improvement projects in Northern California.
- Announced \$69.5 million in permanent low-interest loans from the Proposition 1C housing bonds to jump-start 14 affordable multi-family projects up and down the state, helping more than 1,000 California families and individuals realize the dream of an affordable rental home.



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IMMIGRANTS LESS LIKELY TO USE EMERGENCY ROOMS

False rumors that U.S. hospitals are closing because of undocumented immigrants have spread throughout the nativist internet network. The rumors started in 2005, when the discredited "medical expert" Madeleine Cosman published an article in a right-wing medical journal claiming that "84 California hospitals [were] closing their doors" because undocumented immigrants were straining the hospitals' emergency facilities.¹ The citation for Cosman's claim, though, does not support her contention.

The LA Times article cited reported that: Robert F. Kennedy Medical Center in Hawthorne announced Thursday that it will shut down Dec. 31, becoming the sixth Los Angeles County emergency room [in 2004] to close its doors because of financial problems.²

Nowhere in the article does the LA Times attribute the closing to costs of care for undocumented immigrants. What the Times does say is: Emergency rooms are generally a greater drain on hospital finances than other departments because more of their patients don't have insurance.³

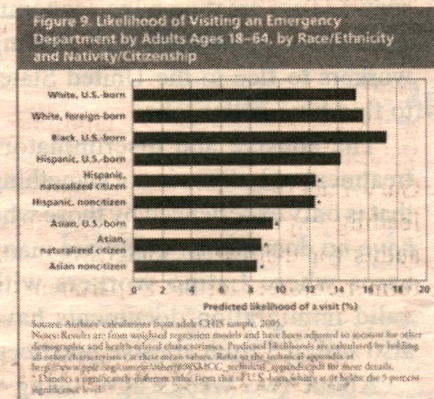
Cosman's false claim relies on the assumption that most uninsured emergency room patients are immigrants. However, a recent study by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) found: Medi-Cal patients are more likely than uninsured or privately insured Californians to visit hospital emergency departments for conditions that could be treated in a clinic or doctor's office.

[I]mmigrants are not crowding the state's emergency rooms – in fact, foreign-born Californians who are not U.S. citizens are among the least likely to seek treatment in the ER.⁴

Addressing undocumented immigrants specifically, PPIC states: [O]ur finding that noncitizens (some

of whom are presumably undocumented) are less likely to visit an emergency department is consistent with other research showing that the foreign-born, and especially undocumented immigrants, use less medical care and contribute less to health care spending relative to their share of the population.⁵

The report also includes a chart that breaks down the propensity of certain groups to rely on emergency medical treatment.



1. Madeleine Cosman. "Illegal Aliens and American Medicine." *Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons*, Spring 2005. Many of Cosman's claims, including her allegation that undocumented immigrants were bringing leprosy to the U.S., were widely debunked by several news outlets in 2007.

2. Jia-Rui Chong. "Hawthorne Hospital to shut doors." *Los Angeles Times*, 24 Sept 2004.

3. Id.

4. "Medi-Cal Patients Are Heaviest Users of Emergency Departments — Majority of Visits May Be Avoidable." Public Policy Institute of California. Press Release, 19 Aug 2008, (emphasis added).

5. Shannon McConville and Helen Lee. "Emergency Department Care in California: Who Uses It and Why?" Public Policy Institute of California, Aug 2008, (emphasis added).

CONGRESSMAN JOE BACA ANNOUNCES MILITARY ACADEMY NIGHT

An informational evening with the U.S. Service Academies hosted by Congressman Baca

SAN BERNARDINO, CA – Congressman Baca is helping students eager to apply to the United States Services Academies by hosting a Military Academy Night. Representatives from the United States Coast Guard, Air Force Academy, Naval Academy, Military Academy and Merchant Marines will make presentations, and answer questions.

The event is open to all educators, parents and students who are interested in applying to the U.S. Service Academies.

The application process is highly competitive and the admissions departments of the military academies decide on final acceptance. Each service academy offers a fully paid education. Students will earn a Bachelor of Science degree and then must fulfill six years of service in the Armed Forces. Students who receive an appointment from more than one academy may select the academy of their choice.

"Dedication and leadership are

vital to our country", said Congressman Baca. "We are in great need of young and bright individuals who aspire to lead our country through their service and commitment. I wish all those hoping to apply to the Service Academies much luck and success".

Students will also have the opportunity to pick up a Congressional Nomination Packet which includes information needed to apply for Congressman Joe Baca's Nomination. A nomination is needed to apply to the Service Academies. Students interested in being nominated by Rep. Baca this year or in the future should first contact the service academy of their choice.

The event for the 2008 Congressional Military Nomination Packets to be available will be at the Economic Development Agency Board Room, 201 North 'E' Street, Suite 301, San Bernardino, CA 92401-1507. RSVP: district office at (909) 885-2222 no later than September 16, 2008.



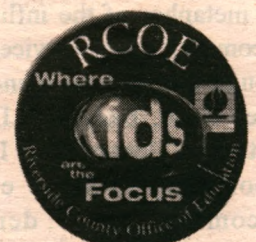
Mr. Kenneth M. Young

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Superintendent
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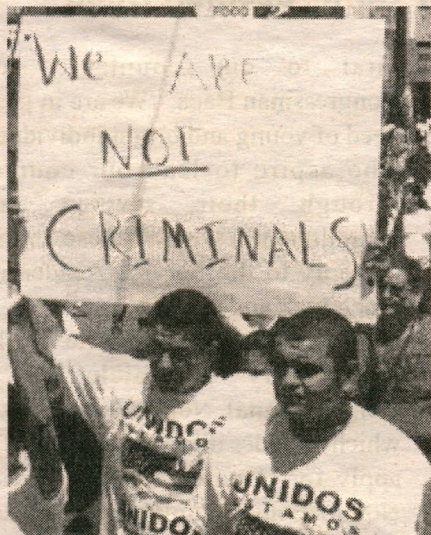
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LABOR DAY: LITTLE TO CELEBRATE FOR U.S. LATINOS

By Haider Rizvi, OneWorld US

UNITED NATIONS, - A vast majority of Latino workers in the United States are forced to work for long hours and low wages with no health care or any other benefits, says a new study published this week.



Demanding better treatment © Independent Media Center Liz Highleyman

The report, entitled, "Labor Day 2008: A Snapshot of the Latino Workforce," shows that most Latinos are employed in occupations that frequently fall short on critical indicators of job quality, including employer-based health and retirement plans.

According to the National Council of La Raza, a rights advocacy group that released the study on the eve of Labor Day, there are over 20 million Latinos currently working in the United States.

Researchers associated with the group say those workers account for more than 14 percent of the United States' total labor force. Yet, for most, medical treatment and job safety remain a distant dream.

There are about 12 million

undocumented workers in the United States who perform all kinds of blue-collar jobs, most of whom come from neighboring Mexico and other countries in Latin America.

The report's findings show that nearly 1,000 Latinos were killed on the job in 2006 — the highest fatality rate of all racial and ethnic groups.

On May 1, 2006, millions of Latino workers took to the streets of New York, Los Angeles, and other major towns and cities across the nation to press for changes in immigration laws and improved treatment of immigrants in the United States.

During that historic protest, many Latino and other immigrant laborers walked off their jobs to demand fair wages and improved working conditions.

Research shows that many immigrant laborers from Latin America and other countries do not stand up for their rights in the work place, in large measure because they are afraid of immigration police and possible imprisonment or deportation.

In the past few years, the George W. Bush administration has led efforts to push for policy changes that would make it harder for undocumented immigrants to stay and work in the United States.

However, strong resistance from rights groups and some in Congress

has stalled those efforts for the time being, though construction of a large new wall has begun along the U.S.-Mexico border.

So far, only the Green Party has offered a coordinated opposition to legislative proposals that target undocumented immigrant workers. The Green Party says it wants an end to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), in part because the economic policies it has spawned are creating huge economic disparities in Mexico and forcing workers to flee to the United States to find blue-collar jobs.

The abusive and discriminatory treatment of Latinos is not something that is only experienced by those who have no documents. There are many cases where Latino workers with valid immigration documents have also suffered from abusive practices.

About two weeks ago, using a procedure set up in the labor side agreement to NAFTA, some Mexican and U.S. groups jointly submitted a document to the Mexican government detailing the frequent exploitation of workers brought into the United States by their employers on temporary work visas.

The submission follows up on a complaint the workers filed in 2005. The workers say they have suffered brutal physical injury, stolen wages, and unsafe housing. They describe

their inability to enforce their rights through the federal and state labor departments, and to obtain access to the civil legal aid they need to seek redress.

Last October, in response to the workers' initial complaint, Mexico asked the United States 69 sets of detailed questions regarding the extent to which state and federal laws, courts, and agencies protect the employment rights of the workers, all of whom were lawfully present in the United States on "H2B" temporary visas for unskilled, non-agricultural workers.

According to the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law, although the federal Departments of Labor and Homeland Security are charged with administering the H2B visa program, neither accepts responsibility for ensuring that employers live up to the promises they make to the workers they recruit.

"Although the Department of Labor does pursue some worker complaints regarding wage and hour violations, it is slow to act," said the Brennan Center's Laura K. Abel.

"Alarming, this spring the Department of Labor proposed regulations to further weaken its ability to protect the rights of H2B workers."

AUTHOR PAULINE MURILLO TO SIGN NEW BOOK

Author Pauline Murillo will be at the San Bernardino County Museum on Sunday, September 7 at 10 a.m. to sign her book, "We are Still Here Alive and in Spirit." Museum will be opened and free to the public.

"We Are Still Here Alive and in Spirit" is a pictorial sequel to Murillo's autobiography, "Living in Two Worlds," that documents her life growing up on the San Manuel Reservation in the twentieth century. Her new book contains nearly 1500 photographs and other images that tell a story of more than 100 years of life on the San Manuel Reservation.

Born in 1934, Murillo is an Elder of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. She has been married to her husband George for more than fifty years. She has three children, eight grandchildren, and fourteen great-grandchildren.

Pauline Murillo will be available to meet visitors from 10am to 2pm. Both books will be available for purchase and signing. Visitors who join the Museum Association or

current members who renew or upgrade their membership category will receive \$10.00 off their purchase of "We Are Still Here Alive and in Spirit" on September 7.

At 2pm, Anthropologist David Earle will lead a free basket identification workshop for collectors and others interested in baskets of southern California Indian tribes. He will identify baskets and teach collectors how to distinguish details on baskets that make identification possible.

Earle teaches anthropology at Antelope Valley College in Lancaster. He consults on archaeology and California native culture and ethnohistory for federal agencies, native tribes, and private firms and has served as staff anthropologist at the Lancaster City Museum.

San Bernardino County Museum is at the California Street exit from Interstate 10 in Redlands, and opened 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free on Sunday, September 7. Parking is free. For information, visit www.sbcountymuseum.org.

FIRST 5 SAN BERNARDINO INVITES NEIGHBORS TO THE UNVEILING OF A COMMUNITY STORYBOOK

SAN BERNARDINO, CA - On September 10, First 5 San Bernardino will unveil its second Community Storybook at an afternoon event held at the San Bernardino County Government Center. The storybook focuses on children ages 0-5, their families and the First 5 partner agencies that supported, assisted and encouraged them. The collage of pictures and stories spotlights the successes and the accomplishments of those in need within our communities.

"The Community Storybook empowers our "community artists" to speak publicly through image, symbol and metaphor of the influences and outcomes of First 5 services delivered through our partner agencies," says Karen Scott, Executive Director of First 5 San Bernardino. "It is a great opportunity to share evaluation outcomes and demonstrate accountability for First 5 San Bernardino with our stakeholders!"

The Community Storybook is a

transformative education tool to build public awareness of the services available as well as the importance of crucial early childhood development."

The unveiling event will take place at the San Bernardino County Government Center in San Bernardino on September 10th at 4:30 PM. The unveiling will include displays of the storybook, a presentation and refreshments. The public is invited and encouraged to attend this informative and festive event.

California Children and Families Act created a system of programs for the purpose of promoting, supporting, and improving the early development of children from the prenatal stage to five years of age.

For more information on First 5 San Bernardino and partnering agencies, please visit www.first5sanbernardino.org or call 1-888-9-FIRST-5.

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San Bernardino County Supervisor Josie Gonzales

Rialto City Councilman Joe Baca Jr.

San Bernardino Community College Trustee James Ramos

Redlands School Board Member Patty Holohan

San Bernardino City Unified School Board Member Teresa Parra

Rialto Police, Fire and Teachers Associations

Food and Drinks will be provided

Reservations are REQUIRED by September 3, 2008 to
(909) 231-7522

LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND CHC STUDENTS INVITED TO LEARN ABOUT COLLEGES STATEWIDE

Representatives from colleges and universities statewide will be providing admissions information during the CHC College Fair scheduled for Tuesday, September 9, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the campus quadrangle. The event is free and anyone is welcome.

The purpose of the event is to provide students, parents, and local citizens with information about community colleges and four-year-colleges directly from the colleges' representatives.

"Attending the fair will give you an opportunity to get answers to many of your questions about colleges, campus life and academic programs," said CHC Counselor Robert McAtee. "Students will learn about admissions requirements for the University of California and Cal State University systems along with

private universities and colleges

The college and university representatives will set up booths to provide information about their schools' academic programs, financial aid, admissions procedures, applications, fees, housing, deadlines, transfer procedures, and more.

Colleges attending include: Hope University, Azusa Pacific University, Cal Baptist University, National University, La Sierra University, Devry University, Loma Linda/Allied Health, University of La Verne, University of Redlands, Vanguard University, Cal Poly Pomona, Humboldt State, CSU San Bernardino, UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Riverside and UC Santa Cruz.

For more information, call 909-389-3324 or 909-389-3366.

RCOE WINS \$3.2 MILLION EARLY-READING GRANT

The Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) has been awarded a \$3.3 million federal grant to support its model Early Reading First (Project READ) program.

"We are very pleased with this award," said Kenneth M. Young, Riverside County Superintendent of Schools. "Reading is a fundamental skill children need to be successful in school."

Project READ is a program that serves 208 children and families in four Head Start preschool centers in Riverside County. The centers serve low-income children, most of who are limited English proficient and/or have an identifiable disability.

Project READ develops oral language and vocabulary skills, knowledge of the alphabet, phonological processing and writing skills. It also provides training for teachers and programs to increase parental involvement in early reading and language development for children.

RCOE was one of only 32 agencies in the United States to receive grants.

"An enormous amount of hard work and dedication is required to receive this grant from the United States Department of Education Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs," wrote Congressman Ken Calvert in announcing the award. "Your extraordinary support of the Early Reading First program has earned you this recognition you rightfully deserve."

The grant will be used by the agency for the next three years.

COLTON PLANS BENEFIT FOR LOCAL RESIDENT

City of Colton residents have planned a fundraising event for long-time resident Paul (Poli) Rivera, currently in the hospital as a cancer patient.

The event will be held at the VFW Post 6476, 789 No. 8th Street (corner 8th & Orange), Colton, on

Saturday, September 13, 2008, from 4:00 to 10:00 PM.

Donation: \$10 per person includes food and music.

Sponsored by Friends of Poli Rivera.

For information call Hope at (909) 884-5647,

If unable to attend, please send donations to: Hope Trevino, 1841 Evelyn Circle, Colton, CA, 92313



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- www.route-66.org
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BLOOMINGTON LIONS CLUB ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC
Lions Club has scheduled its Annual Golf Classic on Saturday, September 13, 2008, San Bernardino Golf Club 1494 S. Waterman Ave., San Bernardino, CA.

Sign-in: 11:30 am, \$70 per player, start at 1:00 pm., awards dinner

to follow the tournament. Proceeds to fund community and humanitarian service projects: eye exams, eyeglasses for the needy, school flag days, school peace poster contest, student speakers contest, scholarships, international youth exchange, plus.

Contact: Gene Bobeng, (909) 877-4852, supertaxman@aol.com

County of San Bernardino
Department of Community
Development and Housing
2005-2010 Consolidated Plan and
2007-2008 Action Plan
Annual Performance Review
NOTICE OF HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.**, in the Chambers of the Board of Supervisors, 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, First Floor, San Bernardino, CA. The purpose of the hearing is to review the County's accomplishments during the past fiscal year relating to the County's 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan.

BACKGROUND

Each year since 1975, the County of San Bernardino has qualified to receive federal housing and community development grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funds are to develop viable communities by providing decent housing, suitable living environments and expanded economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. In 2005, the County renewed its authority to receive funds for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Act (HOME) programs during fiscal years 2006, 2007 and 2008. The CDBG funds are for eligible projects in the unincorporated communities and thirteen (13) cooperating cities. These cities are Adelanto, Barstow, Big Bear Lake, Colton, Grand Terrace, Highland, Loma Linda, Montclair, Needles, Redlands, Twentynine Palms, Yucaipa, and the Town of Yucca Valley. For the purpose of these grant funds, this area is referred to as the "County Consortium." In addition to these cities, the cities of Rancho Cucamonga, and Rialto were approved by HUD to participate in the County's HOME Program Consortium.

In 1995, HUD combined the HOME, ESG, and CDBG programs into a single grant application process. As part of the grant application, the County is required to submit a document that addresses the strategies and priority needs for using these three grant programs over a five-year period. This document is called the Consolidated Plan. The County adopted its current five-year Consolidated Plan on April 12, 2005. That Plan covers fiscal years 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10. To receive the 2007-08 CDBG, ESG, and HOME grant funds, the County prepared an Action Plan to address the housing, homeless, economic development, and community development strategies of the Consolidated Plan. The 2005-10 Consolidated Plan and 2007-08 Action Plan was submitted to HUD on May 29, 2007 for funding approval. During the past fiscal year, that began on July 1, 2007 and ended on June 30, 2008, the County carried out the Action Plan, as part of the five-year Consolidated Plan, through a wide variety of grant funded construction, public service, housing and economic development, and homeless assistance activities.

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

At the end of each September, the County submits a detailed report to HUD covering the past year's activities, accomplishments, and expenditures. The County combines the annual HOME, ESG, and CDBG reports into a single Consolidated Plan Annual Performance Report (CAPER) pursuant to HUD Consolidated Plan regulations. At the public hearing, staff from the Department of Community Development and Housing (CDH) will present the County's 2007-08 Annual Performance Review (APR) and receive citizen's comments. The APR will summarize the County's performance and accomplishments in carrying out programs and projects to meet the various goals and strategies outlined in the Consolidated Plan.

For a period of fifteen (15) days beginning on August 27, 2008 and ending on September 10, 2008, the public is invited to submit written comments on the Annual Performance Review. Comments received after 5:00 p.m. September 10, 2008 cannot be considered in the preparation of the CAPER to HUD. Send comments to County CDH at the address shown below. A draft copy of the APR will be available for public review during the public comment period, at CDH.

Those individuals wishing to express their views on the Annual Performance Review may be present and be heard at the public hearing or may, prior to the time of the hearing, submit written comments to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, 385 North Arrowhead Avenue, Second Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0130.

If you challenge any decision regarding the above proposal in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Board of Supervisors at, or prior to, the public hearing. Due to time constraints and the number of persons wishing to give oral testimony, time restrictions may be placed on oral testimony at the public hearing regarding this proposal. You may make your comments in writing to assure that you are able to express yourself adequately.

County of San Bernardino
Department of Community Development and Housing
290 North "D" Street, Sixth Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0040
Attn: Program and Compliance Section
or call (909) 388-0964

PAUL BIANE, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

DENA M. SMITH
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

HUNDREDS OF WORKERS HELD IN IMMIGRATION RAID

By Adam Nossiter



Federal agents and handcuffed workers at the Howard Industries plant on Monday in Laurel, Miss. Officials said at least 350 workers were in the country illegally. Photo by Jeff Haller

LAUREL, Miss. - In another large-scale workplace immigration crackdown, federal officials raided a factory here on Monday, detaining at least 350 workers they said were in the country illegally.

Howard Industries, one of the largest employers in the region, manufactures electrical transformers, among other products.

Numerous agents from Immigration and Customs Enforcement descended on a factory belonging to Howard Industries Inc., which manufactures electrical transformers, among other products.

As of late Monday afternoon, no criminal charges had been filed, said Barbara Gonzalez, an agency spokeswoman, but she said that dozens of workers had been "identified, fingerprinted, interviewed, photographed and processed for removal from the U.S."

The raid follows a similar large-scale immigration operation at a meatpacking plant in Postville, Iowa, in May when nearly 400 workers were detained. That raid was a significant escalation of the Bush administration's enforcement practices because those detained were not simply deported, as in previous

raids, but were imprisoned for months on criminal charges of using false documents.

The mass rapid-fire hearings after the Postville raid took place in a temporary court facility on the grounds of the National Cattle Congress in Waterloo, Iowa. An interpreter was later sharply critical of the proceedings, saying the immigrants did not understand the charges against them.

An immigrant rights group in Jackson, Miss., the state capital, was critical of Monday's raid, saying families with children were involved.

"It's horrific what ICE is doing to these families and these communities," said Shuya Ohno, a spokesman for the Mississippi Immigrants Rights Alliance. "It's just hard to imagine that this is the United States of America."

In Laurel on Monday afternoon, several dozen family members of immigrants waited for news of their relatives at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. There were several small children. A priest at the church who identified himself only as Father Sergio refused to allow interviews with the families or answer any questions, saying only:

"People are afraid. We need to calm them. There are mothers and children involved."

Entrances to the sprawling plant, in an industrial section south of town, had been blocked off by ICE. A nearby fast-food restaurant was full of the blue-shirted agents, one of whom would say only that a "little inspection" was under way at the facility.

A woman entering the church grounds with four small children said several of the youngsters' parents had been detained. The woman, Mary Troyer, said she was a translator for many of the families.

"I don't like this at all," Ms. Troyer said. "I don't understand it. They have come here to work. It's very sad."

The ICE spokeswoman, Ms. Gonzalez, said the workers would be taken to an ICE detention center to "await the outcome of their cases." She said 50 would be "released into the community" instead of being sent to the center, for "humanitarian reasons," including medical difficulties or the need to take care of children.

She said no lawyers were present while the workers were being interrogated. "Everyone will have due process under law," Ms. Gonzalez said.

Late Monday afternoon, the grim-faced workers, some of them handcuffed, were lined up near white

and silver buses as the rain poured down.

In a statement issued after the raid, Howard Industries, one of the largest employers in the region, acknowledged that it was "visited" by immigration agents trying to determine if its employees were citizens or otherwise legally authorized to work in the country.

"Howard Industries runs every check allowed to ascertain the immigration status of all applicants for jobs," the statement said. "It is company policy that it hires only U.S. citizens and legal immigrants."

Bill Chandler, executive director of the Mississippi Immigrants Rights Alliance, called the Laurel raid a violation of human rights.

"We're very disturbed at what's happened," Mr. Chandler said. "It's a real contradiction between our proclaimed values of hard work and family in Mississippi and the actions of local law enforcement, and ICE. I think it's a real affront to our values. They're creating their own terrorism by going after workers."

After the Iowa raid, the federal interpreter said many of the immigrants did not understand the charges to which they pleaded guilty. But federal officials said the judges in the cases believed that the guilty pleas had been made freely and voluntarily.

Adam Nossiter-New York Times

COLTON CSEA SCHEDULES CANDIDATE FORUM

Paul Rasso, CSEA Endorsement Chair, announced a candidate forum to be held at Colton Middle School, 670 West Laurel Street on Wednesday, September 10, 2008 starting at 6:00 p.m. The forum is open to the public.

"The California School Employees Association, representing 900 classified employees in the Colton Joint Unified School District are prepared to endorse candidates for school board and city council. With a lingering state budget and the threat of another bond for a third high school in the making for Colton residents, the classified union members are seeking change not only in the school board but also in the city council," Paul Rasso, stated. "The school district and

city should be working hand in hand to overcome the burdens in the community and make good on their first promises when Colton resident approved the measure B bond in 2001, to use funds to build a third high school which never got started.

"Eighty percent of our membership live and work here in the Colton Joint Unified School district and have been affected by the recent school year reductions passed by the current school board, which placed financial burdens on many of our members, with skyrocketing gas prices and the failed economy."

For information call Paul Rasso at 909-227-4616 or Gina Sterrett at 909-430-2800.

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For information on programs and services in your area, contact your local school district or call (909) 888-3228.

Gary S. Thomas, Ed.D., Superintendent
San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools

www.sbcss.k12.ca.us

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Salute to the Hispanic community Special Edition

The Inland Empire Hispanic News invites the community, elected officials and candidates for office to join in the national celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month with special greetings in the September 17 publications.

Call Stella at (909) 381-6259 to inquire on special rates.

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A message from California Department of Health Services funded
by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Department of Public Health Nutri-
tion Program Human Services System County of San Bernardino
Project LEAN and the Nutrition Network Grant #99-85567

San Bernardino City
Unified School District
Is now hiring for the
following bilingual
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Bil. Fam. Supp. Worker-13.81 hr.
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Bil. Office Asst. I/HA - 1.03 hr.
Bil. Parent Vol. Worker-12.04 hr.
Bil. Sch. Outreach Wkr.-14.94 hr.

Sal & Bil diff. based on 40-hr wk.,
8 hrs per day. Bil. diff: \$50.00 per
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Benefits: M/D/V/L + PERS; SL -
based on 40-hr wk., 8 hrs per day.
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of San Bernardino**

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